



## 101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

HB0254

by Rep. Will Guzzardi

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/2-3.136a new  
105 ILCS 5/10-20.69 new  
105 ILCS 5/34-18.61 new

Amends the School Code. Provides that, no later than day 60 of instruction in each school year, a school board shall report to the State Board of Education for kindergarten through grade 12 classes certain information about actively employed teachers, pupil-teacher ratios, class instructors, and class sections; defines terms. Requires the State Board of Education to publish the information contained in the reports on its Internet website no later than December 1, 2020 and annually thereafter. Sets forth class size goals to be achieved by the 2021-2022 school year.

LRB101 00365 AXK 45369 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

STATE MANDATES  
ACT MAY REQUIRE  
REIMBURSEMENT

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Sections  
5 2-3.136a, 10-20.69, and 34-18.61 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.136a new)

7 Sec. 2-3.136a. Class size publication. No later than  
8 December 1, 2020, and annually thereafter, the State Board of  
9 Education shall make available on its Internet website the  
10 information collected under subsection (d) of Sections  
11 10-20.69 and 34-18.61 of this Code.

12 (105 ILCS 5/10-20.69 new)

13 Sec. 10-20.69. Class size reporting and reduction goals.

14 (a) The General Assembly finds that limiting class sizes is  
15 an evidence-based practice that greatly benefits the  
16 educational development of students enrolled in public  
17 schools. The General Assembly also finds that decades of  
18 research support the following conclusions:

19 (1) Increasing class sizes is detrimental to a  
20 student's educational outcomes.

21 (2) The benefits of smaller classes are greater for  
22 low-income children, children of color, and young

1 children.

2 (3) Class size effects are persistent and the cost of  
3 decreasing class sizes is offset by the future social and  
4 educational cost savings.

5 (4) The benefits of small class sizes include not only  
6 improving student academic achievement, but also enhancing  
7 social-emotional outcomes and improved school culture.

8 (b) The purposes of this Section are (i) to inform others  
9 about class size policy by having accurate data of class sizes  
10 in Illinois public schools and (ii) to set class size targets  
11 for classes in kindergarten through grade 12.

12 (c) In this Section:

13 "Class" means a setting in which organized instruction of  
14 academic course content is regularly provided to a group of  
15 students for a given scheduled period of time.

16 "Class instructor" means a teacher who has been assigned to  
17 teach students in a class at a public school.

18 "Class section" means a single class where a class  
19 instructor is assigned to teach more than one class per school  
20 day.

21 "Class size" means the number of students in a class who  
22 appear on the class roster and for whom the class instructor is  
23 primarily responsible and accountable.

24 "Pupil-teacher ratio" means the total number of students in  
25 a school divided by the total number of teachers working in  
26 that school.

1       "Teacher" means an individual instructing students at a  
2 public school.

3       "Total caseload" means the total number of students taught  
4 by a class instructor assigned to multiple class sections,  
5 summed across all those assigned class sections.

6       (d) No later than day 60 of instruction in each school  
7 year, a school board shall report for kindergarten through  
8 grade 12 classes all of the following information to the State  
9 Board of Education:

10           (1) The total number of teachers actively employed  
11 within a school district, listed by individual school.

12           (2) The pupil-teacher ratios for each school district.

13           (3) The number of class instructors, by grade level and  
14 subject, in every school district.

15           (4) For teachers assigned to teach multiple class  
16 sections, the class size of each class section and the  
17 total caseload, listed by teacher.

18           (5) For teachers assigned to a single class, the class  
19 size for that class, listed by teacher.

20       (e) The goal of the General Assembly is to make adequate  
21 provisions to ensure that, by the beginning of the 2021-2022  
22 school year, the following class size goals are met:

23           (1) Class size shall not exceed 18 students for a class  
24 of kindergarten students or a class of multi-grade students  
25 that includes kindergarten students.

26           (2) Class size shall not exceed 22 students for a class

1 that includes students in grades 1 through 5.

2 (3) Class size shall not exceed 25 students for a class  
3 that includes students in grades 6 through 12.

4 (4) The total caseload per teacher for teachers  
5 assigned as class instructors for multiple class sections  
6 shall not exceed 150 students.

7 (105 ILCS 5/34-18.61 new)

8 Sec. 34-18.61. Class size reporting and reduction goals.

9 (a) The General Assembly finds that limiting class sizes is  
10 an evidence-based practice that greatly benefits the  
11 educational development of students enrolled in public  
12 schools. The General Assembly also finds that decades of  
13 research support the following conclusions:

14 (1) Increasing class sizes is detrimental to a  
15 student's educational outcomes.

16 (2) The benefits of smaller classes are greater for  
17 low-income children, children of color, and young  
18 children.

19 (3) Class size effects are persistent and the cost of  
20 decreasing class sizes is offset by the future social and  
21 educational cost savings.

22 (4) The benefits of small class sizes include not only  
23 improving student academic achievement, but also enhancing  
24 social-emotional outcomes and improved school culture.

25 (b) The purposes of this Section are (i) to inform others

1 about class size policy by having accurate data of class sizes  
2 in Illinois public schools and (ii) to set class size targets  
3 for classes in kindergarten through grade 12.

4 (c) In this Section:

5 "Class" means a setting in which organized instruction of  
6 academic course content is regularly provided to a group of  
7 students for a given scheduled period of time.

8 "Class instructor" means a teacher who has been assigned to  
9 teach students in a class at a public school.

10 "Class section" means a single class where a class  
11 instructor is assigned to teach more than one class per school  
12 day.

13 "Class size" means the number of students in a class who  
14 appear on the class roster and for whom the class instructor is  
15 primarily responsible and accountable.

16 "Pupil-teacher ratio" means the total number of students in  
17 a school divided by the total number of teachers working in  
18 that school.

19 "Teacher" means an individual instructing students at a  
20 public school.

21 "Total caseload" means the total number of students taught  
22 by a class instructor assigned to multiple class sections,  
23 summed across all those assigned class sections.

24 (d) No later than day 60 of instruction in each school  
25 year, the board shall report for kindergarten through grade 12  
26 classes all of the following information to the State Board of

1 Education:

2 (1) The total number of teachers actively employed  
3 within the district, listed by individual school.

4 (2) The pupil-teacher ratios for the district.

5 (3) The number of class instructors, by grade level and  
6 subject, in the district.

7 (4) For teachers assigned to teach multiple class  
8 sections, the class size of each class section and the  
9 total caseload, listed by teacher.

10 (5) For teachers assigned to a single class, the class  
11 size for that class, listed by teacher.

12 (e) The goal of the General Assembly is to make adequate  
13 provisions to ensure that, by the beginning of the 2021-2022  
14 school year, the following class size goals are met:

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17 that includes kindergarten students.

18 (2) Class size shall not exceed 22 students for a class  
19 that includes students in grades 1 through 5.

20 (3) Class size shall not exceed 25 students for a class  
21 that includes students in grades 6 through 12.

22 (4) The total caseload per teacher for teachers  
23 assigned as class instructors for multiple class sections  
24 shall not exceed 150 students.